## **ABSTRACT**

The present invention found the interaction of CREBL1 and HNF-4 $\alpha$  with HtrA2 and revealed for the first time that CREBL1, ATF6, and HNF-4 $\alpha$  are degraded by active HtrA2.

In addition, the present invention provides a means for inhibiting the degradation of at least one of CREBL1, ATF6, and HNF- $4\alpha$ , comprising inhibiting the function of HtrA2; a means for preventing and/or treating diabetes, comprising inhibiting the degradation by HtrA2 of at least one of CREBL1, ATF6, and HNF- $4\alpha$ ; a means for preventing cell death (for example, pancreatic  $\beta$  cell death), comprising inhibiting the degradation by HtrA2 of CREBL1 and/or ATF6; a means for preventing and/or treating type 2 diabetes, comprising inhibiting the degradation by HtrA2 of HNF- $4\alpha$ ; and a reagent kit.